



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Shigekazu NAGAI et al.

U.S. Serial No. 10/674,518

Group Art Unit: 3723

Filing Date: October 1, 2003

Examiner: L. Wilson

Title: CLAMP APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
(Consideration not Requested)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, the attached form and document(s) indicate information of which the applicant(s) has/have recently become aware which may be relevant to the above-identified application.

The information is in the form references that have been cited in a foreign counterpart application pending before the French Patent Office. A copy of the Search Report (not translated) issued by the French Patent Office, dated December 8, 2004, is enclosed. The references cited in the Search Report are as follows:

- D1) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0022083 published on September 20, 2001
- D2) International Patent Application Publication No. WO 01/42652 published on June 14, 2001
- D3) German Patent No. 299 03 281 U1 published on July 1, 1999
- D4) U.S. Patent No. 4,811,562 published on March 14, 1989

Although the date of the enclosed Search Report is October 8, 2004, the applicants of the present application only first became aware of the enclosed references upon forwarding of these references and the Search Report, in a letter from their French Patent Attorneys dated April 14, 2005. A copy of the letter from the applicant's French Patent Attorneys is also enclosed to be made of record.

Citation D1) above is not enclosed with this submission, since its corresponding U.S. Patent No. 6,543,223 has already been cited to the USPTO in the applicant's earlier Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 10, 2004.

Since the Issue Fee has already been paid in the present application, consideration of these references is not requested at this time. It is respectfully requested only that this submission be placed in the present application file.

Since consideration of the citations is not requested, no fees are due.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul A. Guss', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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